

Castleton Village School

Special Select Board meeting

October 25, 2021

In accordance with Act
46 (H.361):

SLATE VALLEY
UNIFIED UNION DISTRICT
FINAL REPORT
AND
ARTICLES OF
AGREEMENT

Based on Articles of Agreement

- At the time of the formation of the new union district, Castleton-Hubbardton school districts conveyed Castleton Village School and Castleton Elementary School to SVUUSD.
- Now, SVUUSD, having determined it no longer intends to use the CVS building as a middle school, wants to (a) close the school and (b) return it to the towns of Castleton and Hubbardton.

Decision-making process, part 1

1. SVUUSD board must decide by at least a 75% majority vote whether to close CVS. (It did so in May 2021.)
2. Voters of Town of Castleton must decide whether or not to close CVS. (TBD on March 1, 2022, Town Meeting Day school ballot.)
4. IF Castleton voters decide not to close CVS,
 - THEN SVUUSD must continue to operate the CVS building and use it for some educational purpose(s).

Decision-making process, part 2

5. IF Castleton voters decide to close CVS,
 - THEN Castleton AND Hubbardton voters will decide whether to buy the CVS building for \$1.
 - IF both towns choose to buy the building, they “shall reach a mutual agreement” regarding its use, which can include its sale.
 - IF only one town chooses to buy the building,
4. (It may be possible to have the vote on whether to buy the building on Castleton’s and Hubbardton’s Town Meeting Day ballots, e.g., “If the voters of the Town of Castleton decide to close the Castleton Village School, should the Town of Castleton/Hubbardton buy the CVS building for a dollar?”)
5. IF after Castleton voters decided to close the school, neither town chooses to buy the building, THEN SVUUSD retains ownership and may sell the building.

Further details

- 23,000 square feet
- Two sections, one constructed in 1955, the other in the early 1990s
- Sean Sargeant appraised the building. He considers it worth \$650,000 if it were to be sold and \$170,000 if it were to be leased for a year.
- SVUUSD estimates at least \$250,000 in deferred maintenance.
- SVUUSD reports annual operating expenses (fuel, utilities, staff, etc.) of \$170,200.